



IP-37-001-0902

Information Paper **Shipping ThinPrep® Solutions and Samples within
CONUS. 1-49 Vials – Excepted Quantity
Shipments by Highway and Commercial Air
July 2005**

NOTE: If you are shipping more than 49 vials of Thin Prep per package, please refer to the Fact Sheet that relates to the number of vials you are shipping. These are available at <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/hmwp/>

1. Background. Department of Defense (DOD) medical facilities collect and process specimens to test for cervical cancer using the ThinPrep® PreservCyt® solution made by the Cytoc Corporation. PreservCyt® is a methanol-based, buffered preservative solution and is classified as a hazardous material (HM) due to its low flashpoint (80°F/26.5°C) and must be packaged and shipped in accordance with regulatory requirements governing transport of HMs within the United States. A vial of ThinPrep contains 20ml of solution.
2. Training. Personnel who package any quantity of ThinPrep® solution must receive training, within 90 days of employment per 49 CFR 172.704 and International Air Transport Association (IATA) Regulations Chapter 1, Section 1.5. All personnel who sign hazardous materials shipping papers for ThinPrep® shipments must be formally trained per Defense Transportation Regulations, DOD Regulation 4500.9-R, Part II, Chapter 204, Section D (http://www.transcom.mil/j5/pt/dtrpart2/dtr_part_ii_204.pdf). Certification training can be obtained by successfully completing the Transport of Biomedical Material Course given by the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine. Registration for the Transport of Biomedical Material Course is available at <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/trng>. This information paper does not preclude the requirement for specialized training at an approved course for personnel signing hazardous materials shipping papers.
3. Hazard Classification. New vials of PreservCyt® solution as well as those containing a specimen are Hazard Class 3, Flammable Liquids, based on the manufacturer's Material Safety Data Sheet. Although PreservCyt solution contains a biological specimen being sent for purposes of diagnosis, the sample IS NOT classified as a Diagnostic Specimen. PreservCyt solution contains chemicals that will neutralize any infectious agents that might be present. The specimen is therefore excepted from being classified as a Division 6.2 material based on 49 CFR Part 173.134(b)(2)
4. Basic Description: Flammable Liquids, n.o.s. (contains methanol), 3, UN1993, III.
5. Excepted Quantity (highway or commercial air): New vials of PreservCyt® solution or specimens collected in PreservCyt® may be shipped as an excepted quantity as defined in 49 CFR Part 173.4 and in the IATA, Chapter 2, Section 2.7 when there are LESS THAN 50 vials per outer package, **provided** each inner receptacle (vial) does not contain more than 30mL of solution and the

total outer package does not contain more than 1000mL (1L) of HM. The total outer packaging weight cannot exceed 29 kg (64 pounds).

a. Highway: Small quantities of Class 3 Flammable liquids can be shipped by highway using the small quantity exception described in 49 CFR 173.4 as long as the following provisions are met:

i. Packaging: Each inner receptacle having removable closures must be secured with wire, tape, or some other positive means to prevent leakage. The inner receptacles must be securely packed in cushioning material and absorbent material. Sufficient, compatible (non-reactive) absorbent material must be used to absorb the entire contents of the inner receptacles in the event of leakage. Outer packagings must be capable of sustaining the multiple drops from a height of 6 feet, as described in 173.4 (a)(6).

ii. Marking and Labeling: By ground transport (highway), the outer package must be marked with the statement "This package conforms to 49 CFR 173.4."

iii. Shipping Papers: Shipping papers are not required.

b. Commercial air: New vials of PreservCyt® solution or specimens collected in PreservCyt® may be shipped as an excepted quantity as defined in the IATA Regulations, Chapter 2, Section 2.7.

i. Packaging: The shipper must ensure that the package will withstand normal conditions of transport and will not require any special handling, stowage or treatment.

ii. Marking and Labeling. Each package must have a label, properly filled out as required by IATA 2.7.6, having the dimensions of 100mm x100mm (4 x 4 in) which conforms in shape color (red hatch marked border) and format to the label shown below.

DANGEROUS GOODS IN EXCEPTED QUANTITIES

This package contains dangerous goods in excepted small quantities and is in all respects in compliance with the applicable international and national government regulations and the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations.

Signature of Shipper

Title

Date

Name and address of Shipper

This package contains substance(s) in Class
(check applicable box(es))

Class: 2 3 4 5 6 8 9
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

and the applicable UN Numbers are _____

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iii. Shipping papers. Transport by commercial air does not require a shipper's declaration, but does require that the "Nature and Quantity of Goods" box on the airway bill be marked with the statement "Dangerous Goods in Excepted Quantities."

6. For waste management issues, procedures and regulatory requirements see USACHPPM Fact Sheet, Management of Waste from the ThinPrep® Processor, <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/hmwp/> then Facts Sheets, Hazardous Waste.

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